



OREGON FIRE CODE

Interpretations and Technical Advisories

A collaborative service by local and state fire professionals, along with our stakeholders and customers, to provide consistent and concise application of Oregon's fire prevention and life safety regulations.

Date: April 1, 2014

Ruling: Technical Advisory No. 14-14 (Revised TA# 12-01)

Subject: Guidelines for Black Powder and Smokeless Propellants at Gun Shows.

Code Reference: National Fire Protection Association (NFPA 495), Explosive Materials Code.

Content: The purpose of this technical bulletin is to provide minimal guidelines for the temporary display and sale of black powder and smokeless propellants at a gun show venue in a safe and responsible way. These venues usually take place in a building with an assigned use and occupancy classification other than commercial (mercantile). NFPA 495 governs the display and storage of commercial (mercantile) occupancies only.

The display of black powder and smokeless propellants shall follow some of the same requirements as in NFPA 495, Section 14 for commercial (mercantile) establishments.

NOTE: The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (BATFE) require a person selling black powder to be licensed by BATFE. This license does not extend to a temporary location, i.e. gun shows. Orders for the purchase of black powder may be taken at a gun show but the transfer of product must take place at the address on the seller's license.

Display Quantity Permitted in Each Vendor Booth:

- **Black Powder.** An empty container for display and order taking purpose only.
- **Smokeless Propellants.** A maximum quantity of 25 pounds in containers of 1 pound or less may be in the vendor's booth. Quantities greater than what is permitted for display purposes shall remain in the vendor's vehicle outside the building.

Vendor Separations. Separation distance between vendor booths with smokeless propellants shall be a minimum of 25 feet or have a fire partition having a fire-resistance rating of at least 1 hour.

Permits. Contact local authorities (fire and building) for permitting information.

Other References: BATFE rules.